Extension of beat in MA 34 section from Nagercoil to Madurai

2342. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken in regard to extension of beat in MA 34 section from Nagercoil to Madurai (Mail Service) by Chief Post Master General, Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether as per the reply given by the Post Master General Tamil Nadu, the papers are pending before Delhi Office;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) The question of extension of the beat of MA 34 Section from Tirunelveli to Nagarcoil was examined earlier and it was not found feasible due to operational reasons. However, a fresh look is being given to the matter in a wider perspective taking into account other related Sections, in consultation with the offices it concerned.

Waiting list of telephone connections in Kanyakumari

2343. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons waiting list for telephone connections in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu, exchange-wise; and

(b) the reasons for delay in opening of telephone exchange building at Boothampamly in Kanyakumari district?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The details are given in the Statement, (*See* below).

(b) There was a delay in commencing the construction work due to the interference of land owner after the land acquisition in May 94. However, construction of telephone exchange building at Boothapondi is nearing completion now. Installation work for 1000 lines exchange is being taken up in the new building and the same will be commissioned during 1997-98.

Statement

Exchange-wise waiting list for Telephone connections in Kanyakumari District as on 31.03.1997

1.	Nagercoil	4,849
2.	Aloora	73
3.	Aramboly	232
4.	Arumanai	301
5.	Azhagappapuram	337
6.	Boothapondi	199
7.	Cheruvallur	123
8.	Colachel	499
9.	Ethamozhi	601
10.	Kanyakumari	139
11.	Karingal	753
12.	Kattathurai	158
13.	Keeriparai	8
14.	Kollencode	300
15.	Kulasekaram	500
16.	Kuzhithurai	121
17.	Lower Kodayar	6
18.	Manakkavillai	210
19.	Marthandam	292
20.	Muttom	71
21	Neyyoor	734
22.	Painkulam	958
23.	Ramapuram	131
24.	Swamithoppu	259
25.	Thadikarankonam	3